



Illinois  
Environmental  
Protection Agency

Gov't & Community Affairs  
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# Illinois Underground Storage Tank Program: A Cooperative Approach

# The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM)

The OSFM is responsible for regulating the daily operation and maintenance of Illinois' Underground Storage Tank (UST) systems.

## The OSFM is authorized to:

- Register tanks
- License tank installation and removal contractors
- Monitor compliance with leak prevention and leak detection requirements
- Permit tank system installations, closures and removals
- Administrate the financial responsibility requirements



**I**EPA has developed the *Leaking Underground Storage Tank Manual* to provide guidelines in the event of a leak, spill or overfill of petroleum and to offer procedures for reimbursement of corrective action and third party liability costs from the Illinois UST Fund. This manual can be obtained from IEPA's LUST Section.

*For additional information  
please contact:*

The Office of the State Fire Marshal  
Division of Petroleum & Chemical  
Safety  
217/785-5878

Illinois Environmental Protection  
Agency  
Leaking Underground Storage Tank  
Section  
217/782-6762

*To report a leak or spill:*

Illinois Emergency Services and Disas-  
ter Agency (ESDA)  
24 Hour Line 1-800/782-7860

# The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA)

The IEPA is responsible for regulating USTs after a release has occurred and the tank is classified as a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST).

## The IEPA is authorized to:

- Respond to releases or threatened releases of petroleum or hazardous substances from USTs
- Provide environmental assessments
- Manage laboratory analyses
- Supervise LUST site cleanups
- Process requests for reimbursement of corrective action and third party liability costs from the Illinois Underground Storage Tank Fund



**T**here are more than 3 1/2 million underground storage tanks (UST) in the United States. In Illinois, 64,000 tanks have been registered with the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM); approximately 18,000 tanks are unregistered. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) estimates that 25% of these tanks have leaked, are leaking or will leak at some time in the future. These leaking tanks are potential threats to human health and safety.

**A**t the present time, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) is receiving reports of UST releases at the rate of 10 per day. Due to the immensity of this problem, the USEPA issued technical standards and financial responsibility requirements for USTs. In 1989, the Illinois Pollution Control Board adopted these regulations into Illinois law. The petroleum and hazardous substance UST program has been divided between the Office of the State Fire Marshal and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

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